(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir, The Department of Culture has not organised any such Seminar.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Irrigation Facilities in U.P.

*383. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KAHN AZMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irrigation facilities in U.P. are insufficient;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) As per the latest Land Use Statistic 1992-93 (Provisional), brought out by Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, in Uttar Pradesh, against the total cultivable area estimated at 20,838 Thousand (20, 838,000) hectares, net irrigated area was assessed at 11,322 Thousand (11,322,000) hectares, which is 54.3% of the total cultivable area. The major reasons for gap between total cultivable area and net irrigated area is inadequate financial outlays for on-going Projects and consequential delay in their completion.

(c) To increase irrigation facilities in the country, including Uttar Pradesh, during Eighth Five Year Plan, States are being persuaded, *inter-alia,* to (i) avoid thin spreading of plan outlays, (ii) complete Major & Medium projects early, (iii) give priority to speedy completion of ongoing surface water Minor irrigation schemes, (iv) implement conjunctive use of surface and ground water, (v) make Command Area Development Programme more effective and, (vi) put emphasis on Science & Technology components through Research & Development efforts in the field of water management through appropriate agencies.

Socio-Economic Development of Women

*386. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps which have since been taken to implement the scheme for socio-economic development of women as pronounced by the Prime Minister on the Independence Day this year; and

(b) the further steps being taken and the paln of action evoloved in this direction; indicating the provisions made therefor under the Eighth Five Year Plan and that proposed for the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Department of Women & Child Development in implementing Indira Mahila Yojana, which was announced by the Prime Minister. It is being implemented in 200 Blocks of the country.

(b) Preliminary steps like preparation of guidelines, model bye-laws, manual etc. are completed. States and UTs have been asked to form Indira Mahila Kendras and Indira Mahila Block Societies, prepare block-wise Action Plan and District level Indira Mahila Plans. Part of the funds to the States have been released. As the Scheme was started as a pilot project in 200 blocks in the year 1995-96, a provision of Rs. 12 crores has been made to cover the pilot project blocks. Expansion of the scheme and